

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 448

By Harrison

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of James R. Arnott of Surgoinsville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. James R. Arnott, a quiet man who spoke volumes as a dedicated civic leader and model citizen; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Arnott was an exemplary public servant who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities, perhaps most prominently as Mayor of Surgoinsville; and

WHEREAS, he also served as a Surgoinsville Alderman, and as director of the Surgoinsville Utility District, he was instrumental in bringing public water to the city, just as his father was renowned for bringing electricity to the area many years ago; and

WHEREAS, the son of Reynolds and Leota Brown Arnott, James Arnott grew up on his family's farm and lived there his entire life; and

WHEREAS, a noble son of the soil, Mr. Arnott raised corn, tobacco, and cattle throughout his life, in addition to his endeavors in public service; and

WHEREAS, for sixty-six years, he enjoyed the love, support, and companionship of his beloved wife, Margaret Harrison Arnott, who preceded him in death; and

WHEREAS, a grandson of a charter member of Surgoinsville Baptist Church, Mr. Arnott was active as a member of and leader in that church; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Arnott had attended Maryville College and was a member of Clay Masonic Lodge in Church Hill; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Arnott was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his sons, Dr. Michael Arnott and wife, Betty, Gary Arnott and wife, Emma, Danny Arnott and wife, Cristy, and Gregory Arnott and wife, Becky; his

grandchildren, Katherine Arnott Argo and husband, Dr. Josh, Bonnie Arnott Own and husband, Doug, Christina Arnott Burns and husband, Robert, Dr. Kimberly Arnott, Gurry Kay Arnott Huffman and husband, John, and Chris Arnott; twelve great grandchildren; and special nephews Bill and David Horton; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his wife, Mr. Arnott was preceded in death by his parents and two siblings; and

WHEREAS, James Arnott leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we celebrate the life and honor the memory of James R. Arnott, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction and his quiet, yet impeccable, leadership in civic affairs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of James R. Arnott.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.